

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

The novel which deal is written by jodi picoult entitled *Perfect Match*. Jodi picoult was born May 19, 1966, in Nesconset on Long Island in New York. She was studied writing at Princeton University, where she earned her bachelor's degree. She also earned a master's degree in education from Harvard University. There are some novels written by jodi picoult such as *The Tenth* (2005) Circlethe story of the novel is tell about a fourteen-year-old girl, Trixie Stone, who is madly in love for the first time with an upper classman named Jason Underhill, who happens to be the star hockey player of the town and well known by everyone. Sadly though, Jason doesn't love Trixie, he merely only likes her. Because of this fact, after he broke off their relationship, he was the only one to move on. Trixie became depressed, desperate.

The second novel is *VanishingAct* (2005) the story is about Thirty-one year old Delia Hopkins, aka Bethany Matthews, discovers her loving and devoted father, took her away from her alcoholic mother and her childhood in Scottsdale, AZ, created new identities for himself and his daughter, and raised her on lies in New Hampshire. Delia believed

her mother was killed in a car accident. When her father is arrested for the crime and put on trial back in Arizona, everything Delia knows to be true about her life and her world unravels (Michelle, 2004).

And then *Salem Falls* (2002) describes about Jack St. Bride was a history teacher at a private school who was falsely accused of statutory rape. Jack accepted a plea bargain when his lawyer advised him of all the circumstantial evidence against him and spent eight months in prison for a crime he did not commit. Upon his release, Jack knows that he cannot return to the town where he once lived and randomly chooses a new town when he sees a 'help needed' sign in a local diner. The owner, Addie Peabody, has a broken past of her own and has shut out every man who has dared to try to crack the tough exterior wall that protects her heart.

And the last is *My Sister Keeper* (2004) The story is about the Fitzgerald family. The parents of the siblings are Sara and Brian Fitzgerald and their daughter Kate Fitzgerald has suffered from leukemia for a long period of time. Kate's health is not improving and Brian and Sara are desperate to help her. As a result of Kate's decreasing health, Sara and Brian decide that they will have another child with the specific purpose of their new child being compatible for blood and organ transplantation to Kate. As such, Anna Fitzgerald is born and for many years she was happy to give whatever she could to

help her sister's deteriorating health. However, when Anna turns 13 and Kate needs a kidney from Anna to continue to live, Anna declines. Anna's mother, Sara, is furious at this as she wants Anna to give her kidney to Kate. because it is the only way to help her sister hold out . Anna was suppressed, but she have a big heart and attachment for her sister, she always want to help her sister, although her life in danger

The Perfect Match novel is the novel by Jodi Picoult that is very interesting to be read, because the novel has many issue such as rebellion, morality, brutality, justice and injustice but by all of issue above, the most strongest issue is courage focus on Nina Frost as the main character in this novel, and the son named Nathaniel, and he is the victim of pedophiles, it is known by Nina because seeing changes in attitudes and behavior on Nathaniel, he is like denying himself. and many other things that change from him.

The story of Perfect Match novel is about the main character Nina Frost, she is a prosecutor in Maine who tries to balance being a mother to her five year old son, Nathaniel, and a lawyer seeking justice to help ease the pain of molested children. But her world tilts precariously on its edge when they find out that their sweet little boy was a victim of the crime she so desperately works to eradicate. And in a courtroom where you will see a female character to shoot the defendant when he was approaching to his defense attorney. It will be revealed after some time

that the shooter was the Assistant District Attorney named “Nina Maurier Frost” and she was also the defendant of a priest. The reason behind the murder was child sexual abuse. Nina believed that father Szyszynski was the person who had sexually abused her son Nathaniel and Nathaniel was only five years old.

After the lab test it was confirmed that it was father Szyszynski’s semen that was found in the Nathaniel’s underpants. Nathaniel also accused father Glen Szyszynski for this molesting verbally. But, later it was revealed that she was murdered the wrong person. Father Szyszynski was not really behind the crime. It was father Gwynne who had come to visit the place. Father Gwynne and father Szyszynski had the same DNA, as father Gwynne’s bone marrow was transplanted to father Szyszynski’s body. So, their DNA was quite similar.

This fact was revealed in the courtroom while the court trial of Nina was going on. In the judgment of the jury she was guilty of manslaughter as she was influenced of anger and she was sentenced to 20 years in prison. But after a while the verdict was suspended. At the end of the story, another character PatrickDucharme shows an adverse reaction. Patrick Ducharme was the best friend of Nina and also was the colleague of her. But, at this time Patrick Ducharme moves away from Nina’s life without any assist. In the other site, Nina came to

know that her husband Caleb Frost has murdered father Gwynne by poisoning him. Actually, Caleb was against of murder when Nina decided to kill father Szyszynski. So, it was quite surprising that he murdered father Gwynne at the end.

Perfect Match is novel that has positive and negative responses from public. The first positive respons is from Aobhinn he state that Although this may not be one of Jodi Picoult's best novels, nevertheless it is still a good read. Most of Picoult's novel are about extraordinary situations that seem like they've come straight from newspaper headlines, and this one is no different. The second respons is from Mary Kate she said that There are two big plot changes about a third and half way through the book. At this point she stopped caring for Nina. And she generally rate a story like this based on whether or not the author or director made me root for the bad guy. The third is from Abby she said that True to her nature, Picoult did her research before writing this book. She provided twist plots that wouldn't have been made possible without her extensive research about specific laws, DNA research, etc. The fourht is from Michele, she state that This book really made me feel for the characters. The author uses tons of imagery and she words her sentences in such a way that you exactly feel the current issues.

And than the negative responses, the first respons is from richardwiks, he states that the plots in this novel is eassy to predict, *and*Causing less enthusiasm when reading, because the next chapter of the story is predictable. Many people are crying while reading this novel, but different to him, in his opinion, the story in this novel does not maked himtaken along in the story.

There are three reasons why the writer chosen *Perfect Match* novel to be analyzed on the research. The first is character in *Perfect Match* novel. There is interesting character as Nina she is the main character in *Perfect Match* novel. She is the women and as a mother that has unpredictable power, and mazed with her struggle to created justice with her own way and rebellion the legal system. And her son Nathaniel, as the victim of pedophile, he was experienced traumatic, he tried to explainedabout what he already experienced,from him slumped, experiencing changes in behavior and behavior, until he tried to explain with a gesture.

The second is plot in *Perfect Match*novel. The plot is unpredictable and always give many impulse. The story is so interesting and not boring it will make the reader curious about what happen in the next chaper of the novel, because from the first chapter was presented with stressful experience. The readers feel the same feeling as the main character of this novel. The plot is twist but there is the excitement experienced by readers.

The third is issue, Jodi Picoult as the author of *Perfect Match* novel wants to describe and share the story of Nina as a parent, the women that has biggest courage, the women that her son was being the victim of pedophiles, her son named Nathaniel, she is the women that her life was destroyed when her child was being the victim of pedophiles and she want to make the justice with her own way after she knows that the legal system is injustice for her. When she take an action in morality is right but in legally wrong. But in other way, many effects arise from children as victims of pedophiles, and that is evident in this novel, chapter by chapter are showing the change of Nathaniel, which is the victim of the pedophile, very interesting issue that Jodi Picoult gives in this novel.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher proposes to conduct a research entitled” **MEANING OF COURAGE IN JODI PICOULT’S PERFECT MATCH NOVEL(2005): AN EXISTENTIALIST APPROACH**”

B. Previous Study

There are many literary works by Jodi Picoult. *My Sister Keeper* novel is a literary work by Jodi Picoult that is more widely use as a study by researcher. There are three researchers who research it from different aspect. The first is Darmawan Nurcayanto with the title is

“personality of Sara Fitzgerald in My Sister Keeper”. The study is about personality and character of Sara Fitzgerald.

The second is Linda Ratna Susila with title “Child Rights Reflected in Jodi Picoult’s My Sister’s Keeper: A Sociological Perspective” she takes the child rights to making decisions reflected in My Sister’s Keeper.

The third has been taken from Nida Alwafa with title “Personaloty of Anna In My Sister’s Keeper: A psychoanalytic Approach”. her study is about personality and character of Anna In Jodi Picoult’s My Sister Keeper.

The fourth has been taken from Arkin Haris on 2011, with title “Recognition of Courage in Karan Johar’s My Name is Khan(2010) : An Individual Psychological Approach”. This study is about recognition of courage as an issue and reflected in My Name is Khan. The researcher proposes to analized the basic concept of individual psychological approach such as fictional finalism, inferiority feeling, striving for superiority, etc.

The next research is written by Hidayah Yanuastuti on 2011, with title “The Bravery of Military Bomb Squad in Kathryn Bigelow’s the Hurt Locker Movie (2010) : A Sociological Approach. Issue of this study is about bravery of Military bomb and the researcher is using a

sociological approach to analyzed the hurt locker movie by Kathryn Bigelow's on 2010.

The sixth has been taken from Khoerul Huda on 2012, with title "Courage in Philip Noyce's Salt Movie (2010) : A Feminist Approach". This study is proposed to reveal how is courage reflected in Salt Movie (2010), movie Philip Noyces. The object of this study are to analyze courage according to the Salt Movie(2010) and using a sociological approach.

The seventh has been taken from Muhammad David Bachtiar, with title "*Janusz's Bravery To Get The Freedom Of Life In The Way Back Movie Directed By Peter Weir (2010): An Individual Psychological Approach.*" This study foccuses on bravery to get the feedom reflected in the way back movie and using An Individual Approach, that concern with the basic concept of individual psychological approach such as fictional finalism, inferiority feeling, striving for superiority, etc.

The next is taken from Indra Ajie Listya Mahendra on 2014, with title "*Courage And Self-Defense Reflected In Suzanne Collins's The Hunger Games Novel (2008): A Psychoanalytic Approach.*". this study is about courage and self-defense as an issue at this sudy reflected in Suzanne Collins's The Hunger Games Novel, the researcher using a psychoanalytic approach.

It is different with *Perfect Match* novel, that is never to take as study before. The writer had study and search from library of University Muhammadiyah of Surakarta and digital librarys such as ProQuest, Perpustakaan Nasional. The writer seeking until 22nd august 2017. Nevertheless, the writer did not found the study about *Perfect Match* novel by Jodi Picoult. And the respond stuck just in the review of this novel. Thus the writer cannot make the comparison with another writer who conduct the same theme to support this research.

C. Problem Statement

The main problem of this study is “How does Nina Frost’s courage herself againts someone who destroyed the life of her son?”

D. Limitation of the Study

Based on the problem statement above, the objectives of the study in this research are as follows:

1. To analyze *Perfect Match* novel based on structural element of the novel?
2. To describe courage of Nina Frost’s againts someone who destroyed the life of her son based on Existentialist Approach?

E. Objective of the Study

The writer focus to analyze Meaning of courage in Jodi Picoult's *Perfect Match novel* (2005) based on Existentialist Approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of the study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

It will give a new contribution and more information to the larger body of knowledge particularly literary study in Jodi Picoult's *perfect match novel*

2. Practical Benefit

The researcher is expected that this research gives significant benefits, especially for English Department students to understand how to be analyzed *perfect match novel* using Existentialist approach.

G. Research Paper Organization

The research paper is divided into five chapters. Chapter one is introduction that consist of Background of the Study, Problem Statement, Objectives of the Study, Limitation of the Study, Benefits of the Study and Research Paper Organization. Chapter two is Literature Review that consist of Underlying Theory and Previous Study. Chapter three is Research Method. It consist of Object of the

Research, Types of Data and Data Sources, Method of Collecting Data, and Technnique of analyzing Data. Chapter four is courage of Nina frost's usig Existentialist approach in Jodi Picoult's Perfect Match novel. Chapter five is conclusion and suggestion.